

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. In the above amendment, claim 19 is being canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-7, 9-18, 20-29, 31, 32 and 34 remain pending and have been allowed by the Office Action.

Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary

The Examiner telephoned the undersigned attorney of record on May 18, 2007. The Examiner proposed an Examiner's amendment cancelling claim 19 to put the application in a condition for allowance. The undersigned declined the suggestion in that phone conversation and asked the Examiner to send out the office action. No other issues were discussed.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant notes that the Examiner did not initial the reference JP 2001-043393 cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed September 2, 2003. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the reference and provide Applicant with an initialed copy of the PTO-1499 form indicating that the reference was considered.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the Examiner indicating that claims 1-7, 9-18, 20-29, 31, 32 and 34 are allowed.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,133,041 to kaufman et al in

App. No. 10/653,791
Amendment D

view of kwan Liu ma, James S. Painter, Charles D. Hansen, Michael F. Krogh, "A Data Distributed, Parallel Algorithm for Ray-Traced volume Rendering." Applicant has canceled claim 19 without prejudice. The cancellation of claim 19 should not represent a surrender of subject matter and Applicant specifically preserves the right to present this or other claims in a continuation application. As such, the rejection of that claim is now moot.

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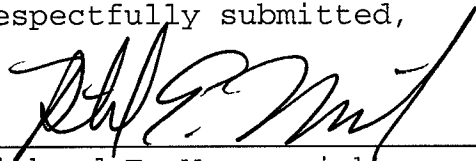
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the pending claims are allowed. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Richard E. Wawrzyniak at (858)552-1311 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Date:

7/30/07

Respectfully submitted,



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